



# ALPHA PHI ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

# The Phi Tauker

VOLUME X, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2010

## SAVE THE DATE

**Founders Day**  
February 27, 2010  
Quaker Square Hotel  
Downtown Akron  
**6th Annual HITWC  
Golf Tournament**  
Saturday June 20, 2010  
Sable Creek GC  
**Home Opener @  
Infocision Stadium**  
Tailgate Party at the  
Alpha Phi House  
TBA 2010

See Full Calendar of  
Events on Page 7

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Chief Editor  
Mike Rizzo

### Editors

Spanky Raymond  
Mike Wyne  
Bob Pairan

## SPANKY RAYMOND WINS RAY C. BLISS AWARD

There are many words that could describe Brother Spanky Raymond. Father, husband, leader, and entrepreneur quickly come to mind. He resides in Green with wife Vicki (U of A Alumni) and three kids – Sydney (7), Nathan (5), Evan (3) and two wolf-hybrids Makita and Cheyenne. Besides being an avid golfer and college football fanatic (Akron and Penn State especially), he enjoys fishing, racquetball and spending time with family and friends.

Although he grew up near Gettysburg, PA, he decided to pursue a higher education at the fabulous University of Akron, graduating in August 1995 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Not satisfied with that great accomplishment, he continued on, graduating in August 1999 with a Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering, with a Biomechanical emphasis. He also taught engineering classes as a graduate teaching/research assistant for 4 years, and in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, his research and development of a portable pneumatic non-pulsatile left ventricular heart pump & thesis secured a \$3 million research grant from the US Army for the Cleveland Clinic. This dedication gained him membership into Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and eventual recipient of the Thomas M. Brittain Award for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement.



This extensive education led to working with companies such as Advanced Cardiovascular Systems (Guidant) – Coronary angioplasty catheter research and development, Theken Spine – Product Development engineer and Quality Systems manager, and most recently O’Savage BioMechanics – BioMechanical design consultant. **(Continued on next page)...**

## AND ON THE FIRST DAY, THEY DRANK JELLO SHOTS

Alpha Phi celebrated the largest alumni gathering of the past 30 years at the chapter house September 19, 2009. Bringing together almost 60 years of alumni, over 250 Phi Taus, family and friends gathered to celebrate the new home of Akron Zips football, Infocision Stadium.

The 40 foot spread of food lasted well after the game and into the evening, keeping the stories coming from earlier days and gave brothers from different eras the chance to meet and reflect.

A commemorative poster donated by Bob Pairan will be hung in the chapter house highlighting the event and allowing stories for years to come as alumni trek back to the house they once called home.

While the goal of the tailgate was to bring everyone together for a great day of brotherhood, many generous donations by alumni helped pay for the day’s event and the new concrete apron for the driveway installed by Max Davidson.



Written by Mike Rizzo/Spanky Raymond

## RAY C. BLISS CONT.

He is the current President of Accelerated OrthoSolutions, in which he is a Design Consultant & Development Specialist in the Medical Device Industry. His expertise includes orthopedics and spinal implant, instrument and surgical technique development. Through all of this he has become quite the inventor. He has three issued patents and many applications in the field of Spinal Orthopedic Implants & Instruments. His associations include being a Licensed Professional Engineer with the State of Ohio, a member of The North American Spine Society, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and of course Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, since pledging in 1994.

Over the last few years, Spanky has immersed himself in helping me expand the Alumni Council to it's current state. He has put in an exuberant amount of hours fine tuning and making sure every little detail was taken care of for our events, newsletters, and projects. If something needed done or a small detail was not taken care of, he would see to it and ensure it was handled. This article cannot begin to show how much he contributed to the success of all of our endeavors. He further stepped up in a time of need and fulfilled the Treasurer's position for Akron Fraternal Homeholding, to which he still holds.

Spanky has really shined in his continued efforts in making the Hole in the Wall Classic Charity Golf Tournament one of the most touted and higher grossing events for any Phi Tau chapter. In just 3 short years, the tournament went from making only several hundred dollars to making a whopping \$17,000 in 2009, which the founders matched for a grand total of \$34,000! All total, since he has been the Director, the tournament has raised in excess of \$63,000! He has been a huge advocate of promoting and helping the newest Hole in the Wall Camp, Flying Horse Farms, get off the ground and gain recognition. We could not ask for a more dedicated and committed Tournament Director than Spanky. On behalf of all the Alpha Phi alumni, thank you for your dedicated service and congratulations on this prestigious award!



Spanky showing off one of the many prizes and making announcements before the start of the 2008 Hole in the Wall Classic.

Please join us in honoring Spanky at Founders Day. Details on Page 3.

*Written by Mike Wyne ('01) and Vicki Raymond*

## LOST BROTHERS, TRACKING DOWN THE PAST

Many of you know that we initiated a calling campaign last year. We have started another round of calls and will be finished hopefully sometime this year. Please visit The Link at [www.phikappatau.org](http://www.phikappatau.org) and sign up for new information about our national fraternity as well as our local chapter at [www.akronphitau.org](http://www.akronphitau.org). We have representatives from a few era's that have stepped up and are willing to provide you with their email address so you can send them all your updated contact info, funny messages and goofy pictures. We do need help with a few decades still. Here is the list:

2000-Present:	Mike Rizzo	(330) 352-2196 or <a href="mailto:mr.michael.rizzo@gmail.com">mr.michael.rizzo@gmail.com</a>
1990-1999:	Spanky Raymond	(330) 351-3120 or <a href="mailto:spanky@accelortho.com">spanky@accelortho.com</a>
1981-1989:	John Maurer	(330) 807-9339 or <a href="mailto:john.maurer@ge.com">john.maurer@ge.com</a>
1971-1980:	Andy Roth	(330) 494-5538 or <a href="mailto:aroth1@uakron.edu">aroth1@uakron.edu</a>
	Bob Pairan	(330) 929-4597 or <a href="mailto:rpairan@neo.rr.com">rpairan@neo.rr.com</a>
1938-1970:	Mike Wyne	(330) 801-0435 or <a href="mailto:pktmike1906@yahoo.com">pktmike1906@yahoo.com</a>
	Mike Rizzo ('02)	

# FOUNDERS DAY SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2010



## QUAKER SQUARE INN @THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

135 South Broadway, Akron, Ohio (OH) 44325-9002  
Phone: 330-253-5970 Fax: 330-253-2574



5:30 P.M. Cocktail Hour, Cash Bar

6:30 P.M. Buffet Dinner

7:15 P.M. Home Holding Report

Board of Governors Report

Alumni Council Report

Active Chapter Report

8:00 P.M. Harmon O. DeGraff Award

Gerald Glinsek Award

Ray C. Bliss Award

**Brotherhood Song**

9:00P.M. Reception at Alpha Phi Chapter House



Lemon chicken      Salmon      Roasted Redskin Potatoes      Steamed Vegetable Medley

**All payments MUST be postmarked prior to February 20, 2010 for Prepayment**

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like more information about the 90s/00s Reunion.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend. My check for \$50 (pre-pay) is enclosed. \$65 at the door.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to pay my 2010 alumni dues. \$25 is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be a Program Sponsor. My check is enclosed for:

Founders Patron \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Old Gold Patron \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ Harvard Red Patron \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Ray C. Bliss Patron \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ 1906 Patron \$19.06 \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Phi Kappa Tau - Graduate Council, and mail to Chris Vovak, Alumni Council Treasurer, 4290 Scarlet Oak Dr. Copley, OH 44321

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# ALPHA PHI ALUMNI DUES

As was decided at Founders Day 2007, alumni dues will be due annually on January 1st. These dues are essential for the Alumni Council to continue to function in keeping alumni informed, performing house improvements, organizing & hosting events, and other endeavors such as the current website development. One of the Councils' largest ongoing expenses is the publication and mailing of the Phi Tauker. Each quarterly publication of the Phi Tauker newsletter costs over \$300 to print and distribute. Postage alone exceeds \$250 per mailing. We are making concerted efforts to grow our email database to help reduce this cost, but we currently lack valid email addresses for over 70% of our alumni. Alumni dues also assist with house improvements like the new retaining walls to the rear steps and the brick patio which went vastly over budget. Beyond the newsletter and house improvement, dues will be used to put on events for our beloved alumni such as last year's Zips Home Opener. We hope to reach a point where we can host a couple first class alumni events each year. We want to give you the best experience possible and keep strong our ties. Hopefully you have a better idea of what these dues go towards, and we hope you will be more willing to participate in this plan and the activities to come. Thank you brothers, because it is our esteemed alumni that makes being a Phi Tau such a special honor!

HELP SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS!

THE ALPHA PHI CHAPTER ALUMNI COUNCIL



## 2010 ALPHA PHI ALUMNI DUES

**THIS IS A BILL. PLEASE CUT OFF & RETURN**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Request Mailed Hard Copy  Check If New Address

Updated Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN TO :**

Chris Vovak  
 Alumni Council Treasurer  
 4290 Scarlet Oak Dr.  
 Copley, OH 44321

<i>Issued</i>	<i>Due</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Balance</i>
01/23/10	9/1/10	Alumni Dues	\$25.00	\$25.00
Additional Contribution				\$
Total Enclosed				\$

*Please Make Checks Payable To: Phi Kappa Tau – Graduate Council*

Questions? Feel Free To Contact Chris Vovak, (330) 701-8020, [chrisvovak@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisvovak@yahoo.com)

## STATUS QUO...NOT OK

I would like to take the opportunity and congratulate the newly elected officers of the chapter. The active chapter had a disappointing finish to the end of 2009. However, the chapter is looking forward to the Spring semester and a new year! Board of Governors will meet with the new officers and set an agenda for 2010. I hope everyone had a safe and happy holidays! Happy New Year!

*Jim Pekarek ('00), BOG Chairman*

## MR. FIX-IT

All repairs are up to date. There was some minor vandalism during Christmas break. Our mail box and parking sign were stolen and some paint was thrown on the side of the house. These things are being fixed. I am still making a plea for a lawyer who is willing to help our chapter with some small legal matters which come up from time to time. If you can spare one hour a month please call me at (330) 524-3083.

*Bill Allen ('69), Homeholding President*

## ACTIVE CHAPTER REPORT

We have another semester under our belt and it was an exciting one. From the first football game tailgate to Thanksgiving dinner, this semester has been filled with excitement and fun for actives and new members.

Throughout the semester we have participated in many philanthropy events put on by sororities where we have had a good showing for Phi Tau. At Alpha Gam Limp Jam we received first place overall with our performance from Disney classics. We also participated in Pi-A-Palooza, where we received second place in the pie baking competition. Finally we participated in Delta Gamma's Anchor Splash, where we received third place for synchronized swimming.

We held elections in late November electing Cameron Klempay (Vice-President), Eric Edwards (VPAR), Vance Mayle (Secretary), Sal Anzalone (Treasurer), and Brett Hancock (MOO). We held initiation on January 17th and initiated two members, Jeff Perro and Frank Niro. We are very excited for the upcoming Spring recruitment!

*Chad Warrick ('06), Chapter President*



Bill Allen

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Chad Warrick

[cmw67@zips.uakron.edu](mailto:cmw67@zips.uakron.edu)

(330) 770-0965

### Board of Governors:

Chairman: Jim Pekarek

Member at Large: Jerry Glinsek

Faculty Advisor: Greg Landis

Risk Management: Ted McQuain

Chapter Advisor: Eric Gorham

Financial: Mike Harkness

### Akron Fraternal Homeholding:

President: Bill Allen

Vice President:

Treasurer: Spanky Raymond

## ALUMNI COUNCIL

Welcome to 2010 Gentlemen! Start of a new decade and hopefully a renewed enthusiasm for our Alpha Phi Chapter! I can promise you the Alumni Council remains focused on creating one of the best alumni groups in the country, and I will stop at nothing to ensure that happens. But I have to be honest, we need some help. We have a lot of great individuals that bring many talents to the council, but unfortunately we cannot move on some of our many ideas without some more manpower. If you would be interested in helping out in any capacity, please let me know.

We will continue to provide our usual, first-class events this coming year, wasting no time with the Reverse Raffle, which will have already taken place by the time this issue comes out. But then coming in February is our annual Founders Day Weekend. I am extra excited about this one, as the Friday night reunion will feature my era, the 90s/2000s. The rest of the year will be chocked full of great events, including the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hole in the Wall Classic Charity Golf Outing, and all of the Zips home football games.

Everyone has many, many things going on, and finding a way to contribute time and donations to growing the success of our Alumni Council and chapter is often way down on the list of priorities. I cannot thank the alumni we have volunteering their time and efforts enough, no matter what the commitment level, to keeping this chapter as successful it is! As I keep stating, we are committed to reconnecting with ALL of our alumni and STAYING connected with them.

I promise you, you will not want to miss out on any of the exciting things that are happening with our Alumni Council and our outstanding fraternity, PHI KAPPA TAU, now and in the future! Our endeavors are not only rewarding but loads of fun.

*Mike Wyne ('01), Alumni Council President*

### Alumni Council:

President: Mike Wyne	Treasurer: Chris Vovak	Website: Bob Pairan/Ryan Von Ahn
Mike "the Muscle" Rechel	Spanky Raymond	Ryan Haddox      Newsletter: Mike Rizzo
Sean Sellitto	Shawn Ferguson	Butch Momchilov
Jim Smith	John Underation	John Maurer

## 90s/2000s REUNION

In continuing our new tradition of having a Friday night reunion of different eras on Founders Day Weekend, we are highlighting 2 decades: the 1990s and 2000s. We threw the 2000s in because there really aren't too many of us, so we figured what the hell! This is still a newer idea, and we hope to continue to grow this reunion to be just as anticipated as the Founders Day Banquet itself. Here are the details:

**When:** Friday, February 26th

7:30pm-Whenever they throw us out!

**Where:** Barley House. Downtown Akron. 222 S Main St.

If interested, contact: **Mike Wyne**

[pktmike1906@yahoo.com](mailto:pktmike1906@yahoo.com) (330) 801-0435

- ★ Appetizers Provided
- ★ Cash Bar
- ★ Donations or Alumni Dues Gladly Accepted
- ★ Feel Free to Bring Old, Embarrassing Pics!
- ★ We will need pics for the Founders Day Banquet to display in a slideshow. Please send to Bob Pairan:  
[bob@ebusinesstactics.com](mailto:bob@ebusinesstactics.com)





Mike Wylne  
Alpha Phi Alumni Council  
3822 S. Arlington Road  
Uniontown, OH 44685

ALPHA PHI CHAPTER  
**ΦΚΤ**  
UNIVERSITY OF AKRON



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# THE PHI TAUKER

## ALPHA PHI ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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*Writers Needed, Inquire Today.  
No Pay, No Benefits, Just tons of Fun!*



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Uniontown, OH 44685  
Mike Rizzo, Chief Editor

(330) 352-2196 or [mr.michael.rizzo@gmail.com](mailto:mr.michael.rizzo@gmail.com)



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Women Sought & Desired!



**ΦΚΤ**  
ALPHA PHI CHAPTER



UNIVERSITY OF AKRON  
**BUILDING MEN OF CHARACTER**

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